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Passengers can come from Colon and Panama in twenty-four hours, and from Barranquilla and Cartagena in two days.

A coast steamer has been put on to-day to run between Bluefields and Colon, touching at Greytown, Port Limon, and Bocas del Toro. Unless this steamer is carefully watched and quarantined at each port, some radical changes should be made in the rules and regulations governing the fruit traffic. I would suggest that all passenger traffic between Port Limon and United States southern ports be stopped during the summer season. Immunes without baggage could be carried with safety, but I would bar all nonimmunes from noninfected localities. The noninfected localities of Costa Rica are hard to define.

This is the first opportunity that I have had at a typewriter since leaving Colon, and now have only a few hours to catch a tramp steamer to Vera Cruz. Upon reaching Vera Cruz I will send in a complete report of my trip, with maps and charts of the possible routes of yellow fever.

Respectfully,

SAML. H. HODGSON,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

CUBA.

Reports from Cienfuegos, Casilda, and Santa Cruz del Sur.

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *April 9, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that during the week ended April 7, 1900, 18 deaths have occurred in this city—tuberculosis, 5; malaria, 2; intestinal diseases, 2; no contagious diseases reported. Two deaths occurred in the civil hospital. Death rate for the week is 23.50.

Fifteen foreign vessels have entered this port, and 8 have received bills of health during the week. I was requested by the agent of the Spanish steamship *J. Jover Serra*, from Barcelona, to disinfect the vessel previous to departure for the port of New Orleans. This was done. As this is the last port for many vessels previous to leaving for the United States, and being disinfected here saves them at least two days, and most of these vessels being too large to come to the wharf, I would suggest that the disinfecting barge be sent to this station as soon as possible, for the season is now here when it is needed.

At present the city is undergoing the opening of 4 miles of streets for the laying of gas pipes, after four months of cool weather, from November to April, during which time no such work was done, but as the summer is approaching the city is being torn up. Some of the older citizens say there is no danger of yellow fever from this source, but that it produces a great amount of malaria of a pernicious type. Some say that opening the street to a depth of two or three feet will not produce yellow fever, but that if opened to a depth of five or six it will. The cause and history of yellow fever in Santiago last season should warn them not to open the streets so late in the season. If this work is finished by June 1, as they say it will, there might not be much danger in it, but if extended later in the season we might repeat the history of Santiago.

In a previous report I stated that, in my opinion, we stood little chance of infection from importation, but a greater one from the tearing down of old buildings and opening of streets. Last October they commenced cleaning the warehouses on the harbor front and piling the

refuse in the streets, and upon protest from this office to the mayor it was stopped and postponed until cooler weather. Last season not a case of yellow fever occurred in this city, and by taking every precaution we should not have a case this season.

Casilda.—Dr. Alejandro Cantero reports 4 deaths in the city of Trinidad during the week; no contagious diseases. Inspected 2 foreign vessels during the week.

Santa Cruz del Sur.—Dr. Juan R. Xiques reports no deaths and no contagious diseases during the week. Inspected 1 foreign vessel during the week.

Respectfully,

J. M. LINDSLEY,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report from Havana.

HAVANA, CUBA, April 9, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith report for the week ended April 7, 1900.

The general health of the town continues good, the death rate being low. The weather has been unusually cool and there has been no increase, rather a diminution of yellow fever. The number of passengers leaving for the United States has markedly diminished; that by New York lines has undergone some increase; that by way of southern ports has practically ceased, 9 only having gone this week, in 6 steamships. The work of the station is going on fairly well, though things naturally do not go smoothly the first ten or fourteen days of quarantine. There have been 2 cases of yellow fever reported this week—1 American and 1 Spaniard. I inclose herewith mortuary report and report of work of outdoor department.

Respectfully,

H. R. CARTER,

Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Mortuary report for the week ended April 7, 1900.

	Deaths.
Tuberculosis.....	18
Enteritis.....	9
Pneumonia.....	6
Enteric fever.....	3
Malarial fever.....	4
La grippe.....	4
Total deaths from all causes.....	105
For outdoor department—	
Examined.....	352
Vaccinated.....	53
Alien steerage passengers entered.....	700
Vessels inspected and cleared.....	24
Vessels inspected and entered.....	12
Vessels disinfected.....	3